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From Tuesday October 22. to Saturday October 26. 1734.

By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

Requiring all Seamen and Mariners in his Majesty's Service to repair forthwith to the Ships of War to which they belong.

WHereas by the Seventeenth Article in an Act of Parliament made in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of King Charles the Second, intituled, An Act for the Establishing Articles and Orders for the regulating and better Government of his Majesty's Navies, Ships of War, and Forces by Sea, it is enacted, That all Sea Captains, Officers, or Mariners, that shall desert the Services, or their Imployment in the said Ships, or shall run away, or entice any other so to do, shall be punished with Death: Notwithstanding which, it hath been represented unto us by our Commissioners of the Admiralty, that divers Seamen and Mariners, who belong to our Ships of War, depending too much upon the great Lenity and Forbearance which have been used of late Years, have either run away from our said Ships, or, being put on Shore into our Hospitals, or into Sick Quarters for the Recovery of their Health, have not returned again to their Duty on Board; and likewise that many others, who have had Leave to be absent for a Time, have absented themselves beyond the Time limited. We have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of our Privy Council, to publish this our Royal Proclamation: And we do hereby require and command, that all and singular such Seamen and Mariners belonging to any of our Ships of War, who have absented themselves from the same, as aforesaid, do forthwith repair on Board such of our Ships, unto which they do respectively belong. And as we are desirous to give all due Encouragement to such Seamen and Mariners as shall do their Duty in their several Stations and Imployments, so we are resolved to proceed with the utmost Severity of Law against all such as shall disobey this our Royal Proclamation: And therefore we are hereby graciously pleased to declare, that such Seamen and Mariners, who have absented themselves from any of our Ships, as aforesaid, and shall render themselves on Board the same, on or before the Twenty Fourth Day of November next, shall not be prosecuted for such their absenting from our Service. But we do hereby declare, that all such Seamen and Mariners, who shall neglect to give Obedience to this our Royal Proclamation, and shall not render themselves on Board their Ships within the Time herein before limited, as also all such Seamen and Mariners, who shall hereafter absent themselves from our Service without the Leave of their respective Officers, or beyond the Time to them limited, shall be prosecuted at a Court Martial with the utmost Severity, according to the said Act of Parliament; and that we shall not in any wise esteem them as fit Objects of our Mercy: It being our firm Resolution to have exact Order and Discipline for the future maintained and supported in our Navy and Ships of War.

Given at our Court at Kensington the Twenty Fourth Day of October, in the Eighth Year of our Reign.

GOD save the KING.

Whitehall, October 26.

Some Hours after the Princess Royal's Departure on Monday Morning last from Kensington, Letters were brought thither from his most Serene Highness the Prince of Orange, which being sent by an Express were delivered to her Royal Highness on Tuesday Morning at Colchester, importing that he could not arrive in Holland so soon as he had intended. Whereupon her Royal Highness thought proper to return to Kensington, where she arrived that Evening in perfect Health.